

TESTAMONY OF DAVID S. HEAP REGARDING GUN CONTROL IN CONNECTICUT

- 1) Criminals have no regard for gun laws. Of all of the proposed legislation I have seen, I do not see any that pertains to how criminals are going to be prevented from committing gun violence. What I do see is the trampling of the rights of law abiding gun owners.
- 2) Much of the proposed legislation is in opposition to the constitution and the 2nd amendment and is in fact illegal. The supremacy clause(article 6, clause 2) of the United States Constitution declares that federal laws are the supreme law of the land. The Constitution itself is supreme over any state law.
- 3) Writing legislation that is in opposition to the Constitution is an act of treason, whereas every elected official has sworn an oath to protect the Constitution and the government from all enemies, both foreign and domestic, by writing such legislation, you have become a domestic enemy of our Constitution.
- 4) The 1994 Federal Assault Weapons ban was a 10 year experiment that did not work. The centers for Disease Control studied the assault weapons ban and other gun control attempts and found "insufficient evidence to determine the effectiveness of any of the fire arms laws reviewed for preventing violence" The National Research Council panel also noted that academic studies of the assault weapon ban "did not reveal any clear impacts on gun violence" and noted " due to the fact that the relative rarity with which the banned guns were used in crime before the ban...the maximum potential effect of the ban on gun violence outcomes would be very small." If we have already gone down this road once and it did not work, why try it again.
- 5) Large capacity magazines. There is no significant time delays between using 1 30 round clip or 3 10 round clips. I can change the clip in my rifle in 2 seconds or under, as im sure most criminals can do also. But remember criminals have no regard for laws, they will still have 30 round clips, even if those are out lawed.
- 6) Which brings me to my next point. Because criminals have no regard for laws and I as a law abiding citizen do, I may be facing a criminal(with a 30 round clip) with my legally mandated 10 round clip, putting my family and myself at a distinct disadvantage should I be forced to use my gun to defend myself. There is a very good demonstration on you tube about magazine capacity. I strongly encourage you to go to you tube and search" magazine ban"and click on the video with the sheriff in the picture. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b2Upin5DROo>
- 7) I am a proponent of concealed carry hand guns in order to fight violent gun crime. A shooter must be taken down in seconds of opening fire on his intended victims. Even 5 minutes for the police to respond is too much time. And we know it often takes much longer than that for the police to respond.
- 8) Balance of power. The 2nd amendment was created as a deterrent to our government becoming tyrannical, As the British empire had become. In order to keep the balance of power it is necessary for "we the people" to keep and bear assault weapons. And even at that we are at a distinct disadvantage because our weapons are not fully automatic as the governments and police departments are.

- 9) CT state law (53-202a) concerning assault weapons is already stringent to the point that an ar-15 can hardly be classified as an assault weapon anymore. Further more CT already has gun legislation in place, and I cite 53-202b sale or transfer of assault weapons prohibited , class C felony. 53-202c possession of assault weapon prohibited class D felony. Further more the courts of CT are lax on sentencing criminals in violation of the laws we already have. Case # CSP-03-024602 is a case in point where 2 men stole a car in MA, drove to Brooklyn CT, broke into a gun shop and stole fire arms. Then proceeded to lead state police on a high speed chase. The out come in court; suspended sentences and probation. Where is the justice in this.
- 10) Misleading statements by the organization; CT against gun violence. 1) "States with stricter laws are proven to have lower rates of gun violence" this may be true but they do not mention that those States have a significantly higher rate of violent crime over all, Chicago is a glaring example of this. Of those Countries that have outlawed guns, England and Australia, saw huge increases in their rates of violent crime. 2) 70% of CT residents are against gun violence." This does not mean that 70% of CT residents support CT AGV's recommendations.